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21 February 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MEETING on Draft National Policy on  
Telecommunications and Automated Systems Security

1. On 17 February 1984, [redacted] attended a meeting at the NSC to discuss the draft of a new NSDD concerning telecommunications and automated systems security. [redacted] from the IC staff joined us at the meeting, which was chaired by Admiral John Poindexter, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security. There were forty persons at the meeting representing: NSC, Treasury, Justice, FBI, Commerce, Transportation, Energy, OMB, State, GSA, FEMA, DOD, JCS, SECDEF, NSA and NCS. The meeting lasted for about one hour.

2. Adm. Poindexter opened the meeting by stating that the purpose was to solicit comments on the proposed draft NSDD, which is being proposed to enhance [redacted] Adm. Poindexter said that there would be another draft circulated before the final version is sent to the President for approval. He then asked for comments from individual representatives. The gist of these comments is listed below.

a. Treasury - Heartily endorse the objectives.  
b. Justice - Believes there will be legal issues and that the Attorney General should be included in the Steering Group proposed in the draft NSDD. It was also stated that Justice had a difficult time getting a handle on computer security problems and recommended a "go slow" approach on issuing the new NSDD.

c. FBI- Agreed with Justice. Draft NSDD needs treatment on resources and inspection authority issues. The matter of how privacy issues would be treated was also raised.

d. Commerce - Asked what additional radio frequency spectrum may be needed; shared Justice feelings; and, asked what implications SECDEF as a security agency would have over unclassified, non-security matters.

e. Transportation - Good approach but cautioned on sources and budget goals.

NSC review

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f. Energy - Shares the views of others stated previously and generally supports the policy thrust. Recommended caution in proceedings.

g. OMB - Stated there would be a major change in government. Willing to work with the group to develop policy. Suggested that it would be appropriate to seek legislation for NSA to undertake budget authority.

h. CIA - Comments prepared by [ ] are attached.

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i.. State - Agreed with effort and expressed disappointment over point that SECSTATE was not included in proposed Steering Group. State shared CIA views, stated there is a lot of work to do before the document is ready, and that the Executive Agent authorities are too broad.

j. GSA - Observed that progress in computer security field has not kept pace with technology. The proposed NSDD should be cut back in scope of effort and that it is premature concerning computer security.

k. FEMA - Agreed the two disciplines should be integrated. Supported State views.

l. DOD (Gen Stilwell) - DOD does not speak with a single voice. Indicated going too far too fast. Sees merit in one document, two committees. Did not believe it is time for a National Manager and should not attempt to mandate Executive Agent beyond COMSEC field. Also stated NSA should not be expanded to handle computer security.

m. JCS- Supported information security and COMSEC. Could not support management structure and authorities in the proposed draft. Stated these were too broad and that before JCS would pass, the document would have to be thoroughly staffed.

n. DOD C<sup>3</sup>I (Latham) - Supports the draft NSDD. Stated COMSEC and computer security lines have become blurred. The breaking point between the two disciplines should be identified. SECDEF is planning to bring the two together within two years.

o. NSA - In favor. Stated that multi-level security has yet to be achieved. Mentioned that most other Western governments had already combined COMSEC and computer security under one umbrella. Stated NSA is not looking for money belonging to others or seeking additional responsibility.

p. NCS - Stated they had trouble with resource implications and the private sector issue. Indicated NASA wants to join this group.

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3. Adm. Poindexter departed from the meeting approximately 25 minutes after it started. Mr. deGraffenreid took over for him. There were several comments made by the OMB, NSA and DOD representatives, which reiterated what has already been stated above. Mr. deGraffenreid asked that additional comments be forwarded to Adm. Poindexter by COB 27 February 1984 so that the next draft can be issued quickly.

25X1 4. In sum, the group's tone was one of general agreement concerning the enhancement of [ ] but also indicated that haste should be made slowly. With this in mind, it is unclear as to why Mr. deGraffenreid directed such a short turn-around time for the next series of comments.

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